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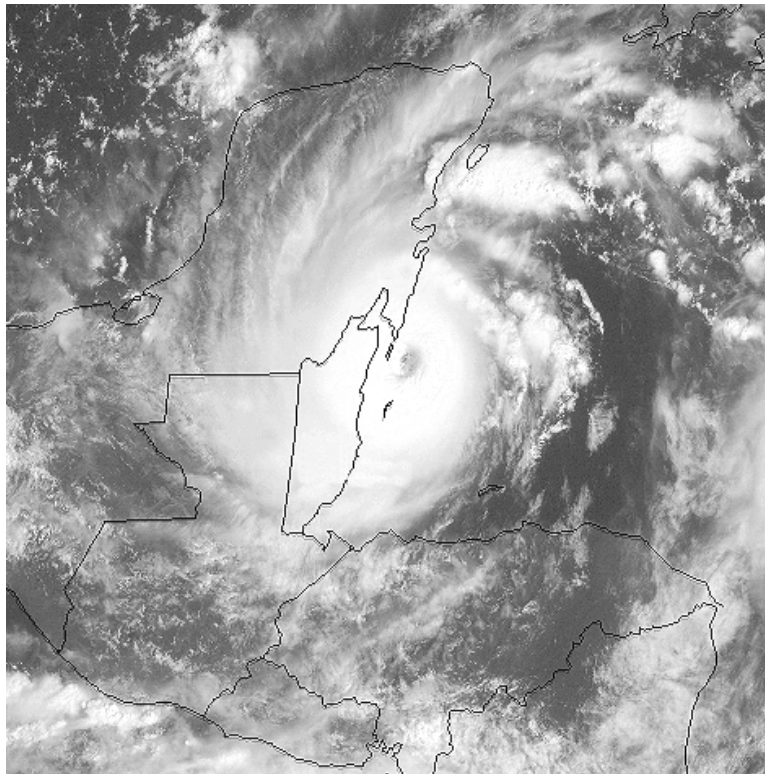
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OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL COORDINATOR FOR
METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTING RESEARCH

National Hurricane Operations Plan

FCM-P12-2001



Washington, DC
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Hurricane Keith - 1 October 2000

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NATIONAL HURRICANE OPERATIONS PLAN

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CHANGE AND REVIEW LOG

Use this page to record changes and notices of reviews.

Change Number	Page Numbers	Date Posted	Initial
1			
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Changes are indicated by a vertical line in the margin next to the change or by shading and strikeouts.

Review Date	Comments	Initial

FOREWORD

The Interdepartmental Hurricane Conference (IHC) is sponsored annually by the Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research (OFCM) with the goal to bring together the cognizant Federal agencies, together with representatives from the user communities, especially the emergency management community, to address and reach agreement on items of mutual interest and concern related to the provision of hurricane/tropical cyclone forecast and warning services. The procedures and agreements reached at the 55th IHC, which was held in Orlando, Florida, March 5-9, 2001, resulted in this publication--the 39th edition of the *National Hurricane Operations Plan* (NHOP).

This edition includes a number of revisions and changes. Twelve action items were addressed during an open meeting of the Working Group for Hurricane and Winter Storms Operations and Research (WG/HWSOR). Seven of the twelve items were closed through incorporation into the NHOP as approved recommendations and/or changes. Of the remaining five, two action items were for information only, and three were non-NHOP related and are being staffed by the WG/HWSOR. The action items will be published in the *Minutes of the 55th Interdepartmental Hurricane Conference*.

Appendix A on local National Weather Service (NWS) Office products, which was new to the NHOP last year, was updated with a new table, indicating how tropical cyclone watch/warning-related products are issued for local users. Chapter 3, *General Operations and Procedures of the National Weather Service Hurricane Centers*, includes a significant revision of abbreviated communications headings. In Chapter 5, *Aircraft Reconnaissance*, the section on Air Traffic Control (ATC) Clearances was updated to incorporate revised procedures between the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC), and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), regarding weather reconnaissance and research operations. Chapter 8 was retitled--*National Data Buoy Capabilities and Requirements*--and includes new documentation on the Navy's drifting buoy program. Chapter 6, *Satellite Reconnaissance*, and Chapter 9, *Marine Weather Broadcasts*, were also substantially updated.

The 2000 season, which included Hurricane Keith whose name was retired, was both active and unusual from the standpoint that the United States experienced no landfalling hurricanes. The season, however, put our multiagency tropical cyclone warning support system to the test, and, once again, the system superbly responded--a tribute to the professionalism, dedication, and cooperation of the civilian and military agencies involved.

Samuel P. Williamson
Federal Coordinator for Meteorological
Services and Supporting Research

NATIONAL HURRICANE OPERATIONS PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
CHANGE AND REVIEW LOG	ii
FOREWORD	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	v
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION	1-1
1.1. General	1-1
1.2. Scope	1-1
CHAPTER 2 RESPONSIBILITIES OF COOPERATING FEDERAL AGENCIES ..	2-1
2.1. General	2-1
2.2. DOC Responsibilities	2-1
2.3. DOD Responsibilities	2-4
2.4. DOT Responsibilities	2-5
2.5. Annual Liaison with Other Nations	2-5
2.6. Air Traffic Control/Flight Operations Coordination	2-5
CHAPTER 3 GENERAL OPERATIONS AND PROCEDURES OF THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HURRICANE CENTERS	3-1
3.1. General	3-1
3.2. Products	3-1
3.3. Designation of Tropical and Subtropical Cyclones	3-4
3.4. Transfer of Warning Responsibility	3-6
3.5. Alternate Warning Responsibilities	3-6
3.6. Abbreviated Communications Headings	3-11
CHAPTER 4 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PRODUCTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE	4-1
4.1. General	4-1
4.2. Observations	4-1
4.3. Tropical Cyclone Forecast/Advisories	4-1
CHAPTER 5 AIRCRAFT RECONNAISSANCE	5-1
5.1. General	5-1
5.2. Responsibilities	5-1
5.3. Control of Aircraft	5-3

5.4.	Reconnaissance Requirements	5-3
5.5.	Reconnaissance Planning and Flight Notification	5-7
5.6.	Reconnaissance Effectiveness Criteria	5-19
5.7.	Aerial Reconnaissance Weather Encoding, Reporting, and Coordination	5-20
5.8.	Operational Flight Patterns	5-23
5.9.	Aircraft Reconnaissance Communications	5-26
CHAPTER 6	SATELLITE SURVEILLANCE OF TROPICAL AND SUBTROPICAL CYCLONES	6-1
6.1.	Satellites	6-1
6.2.	National Weather Service (NWS) Support	6-5
6.3.	NESDIS Satellite Analysis Branch (SAB)	6-6
6.4.	Air Force Support and the Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP)	6-6
6.5.	Satellites and Satellite Data Availability for the Current Hurricane Season	6-9
6.6.	Current Intensity and Tropical Classification Number	6-13
CHAPTER 7	SURFACE RADAR REPORTING	7-1
7.1.	General	7-1
7.2.	The WSR-88D	7-1
7.3.	Procedures	7-1
CHAPTER 8	NATIONAL DATA BUOY CAPABILITIES AND REQUIREMENTS	8-1
8.1.	General	8-1
8.2.	Requests for Drifting Buoy Deployment	8-2
8.3.	Communications	8-2
CHAPTER 9	MARINE WEATHER BROADCASTS	9-1
9.1.	General	9-1
9.2.	Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS)	9-1
9.3.	Coastal Marine Safety Broadcasts	9-2
9.4.	High Seas Broadcasts	9-2
9.5.	Additional Information	9-3
CHAPTER 10	PUBLICITY	10-1
10.1.	News Media Releases	10-1
10.2.	Distribution	10-1
APPENDIX A	LOCAL NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE (NWS) OFFICE PRODUCTS	A-1

APPENDIX B	DEFINING POINTS FOR TROPICAL CYCLONE WATCHES/ WARNINGS	B-1
APPENDIX C	JOINT TYPHOON WARNING CENTER (JTWC) BULLETINS	C-1
APPENDIX D	FORMAT FOR NHOP/NWSOP FLIGHT INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC NOTAM ISSUANCE	D-1
APPENDIX E	SAFFIR-SIMPSON HURRICANE SCALE	E-1
APPENDIX F	OFFICIAL INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS	F-1
APPENDIX G	RECCO, HDOB, MINOB, AND TEMP DROP CODES, TABLES, AND REGULATIONS	G-1
APPENDIX H	WSR-88D OPERATIONS PLAN FOR TROPICAL CYCLONE EVENTS	H-1
APPENDIX I	TELEPHONE AND TELETYPE LISTING	I-1
APPENDIX J	PHONETIC PRONUNCIATION LISTING	J-1
APPENDIX K	ACRONYMS/ABBREVIATIONS	K-1
APPENDIX L	GLOSSARY	L-1
APPENDIX M	DISTRIBUTION	M-1

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page
1-1.	Tropical cyclone forecast centers' areas of responsibility 1-2
2-1.	Super Typhoon Bilis, August 21, 2000 2-3
4-1.	Tropical cyclone forecast/advisory format 4-3
4-2.	Tropical cyclone public advisory format 4-4
5-1.	WC-130 Weather Reconnaissance Aircraft 5-2
5-2.	G-IV Weather Surveillance Aircraft 5-2
5-3.	NOAA P-3 Weather Surveillance Aircraft 5-3
5-4.	Vortex data message worksheet 5-8
5-5.	Supplementary vortex data message 5-9
5-6.	Example Vortex Data Message (VDM) and Supplementary Vortex Data Message (SVDM) for the WC-130H and WC-130J 5-13
5-7.	NHOP coordinated request for aircraft reconnaissance 5-14
5-8.	Tropical cyclone plan of the day format 5-15
5-9.	Mission evaluation form 5-21
5-10.	Flight pattern ALPHA 5-24
5-11.	Suggested patterns for investigative missions 5-25
5-12.	Schematic of aircraft-to-satellite data link for NOAA P-3 aircraft 5-28
5-13.	Schematic of aircraft-to-satellite data link for AFRC WC-130 aircraft 5-29
6-1.	The GOES satellite system 6-2
6-2.	Center fix data form and message format (satellite) 6-8
8-1.	NDBC moored buoy locations in the Atlantic Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Great Lakes 8-5
8-2.	NDBC moored buoys in the Pacific Ocean 8-6
8-3.	C-MAN stations in the coastal U.S. 8-7
8-4.	NDBC planned and current Gulf of Mexico moored buoy network 8-8
8-5.	Drifting data buoy deployment patterns 8-9
G-1.	Reconnaissance code recording form G-2
G-2.	HDOB Description and Sample Messages G-6
G-3.	MinOb Description and Sample Message G-8
G-4.	Example TEMP DROP Message for Tropical Cyclone Operations G-17

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
3-1. Atlantic Tropical Cyclone Names	3-7
3-2. Eastern Pacific Tropical Cyclone Names	3-8
3-3. Central Pacific Tropical Cyclone Names	3-9
3-4. International Tropical Cyclone Names for the Western Pacific and South China Sea	3-10
5-1. Requirement for aircraft reconnaissance data	5-6
5-2. Vortex data message entry explanation	5-10
6-1. Communications headings for satellite tropical weather discussion summaries	6-7
6-2. Satellite and satellite data availability for the current hurricane season	6-9
6-3. The empirical relationship between the C.I. number and the maximum wind speed and the relationship between the T-number and the minimum sea-level pressure	6-13
7-1. Participating radar stations	7-2
8-1. Moored buoy locations and configurations	8-3
8-2. C-MAN sites	8-4
8-3. Code forms for moored data buoys, C-MAN stations, and drifting buoys	8-10
G-1. Reconnaissance code tables	G-3
G-2. Reconnaissance code regulations	G-4
G-3. HDOB Message Format	G-7
G-4. NOAA MinOb Message Format	G-9
G-5. TEMP DROP code	G-10